

Federal Voters Assistance Program (FVAP)

Overview

The Federal Voters Assistance Program (FVAP) provides U.S. citizens worldwide a broad range of non-partisan information and assistance to facilitate their participation in the democratic process - regardless of where they work or live. The Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act of 1986 (UOCAVA) requires that the states and territories allow certain U.S. citizens, as defined below, to register and vote absentee in elections for Federal office. These groups include:

- Members of the Uniformed Services (including Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard);
- Merchant Marines;
- Eligible family members of the above;
- Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service, and Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration;
- U.S. citizens employed by the Federal government residing outside the U.S.; and
- All other private U.S. citizens residing outside the U.S.

The FVAP also acts on behalf of the Secretary of Defense to administer the Federal responsibilities of the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA), which designates armed forces recruiting offices nationwide as voter registration agencies allowing eligible U.S. citizens to apply for voter registration, or apply to change voter registration data, at 6000 Armed Forces Recruitment Offices nationwide.

Program Mission

The Business Transformation Agency (BTA) supports technology needs of FVAP in their mission to administer the Federal responsibilities of the Presidential designee (Secretary of Defense), under UOCAVA. The Act covers more than six million potential voters. The FVAP has three distinct goals. These are to:

- Inform and educate U.S. citizens worldwide of their right to vote;
- Foster voting participation; and
- Protect the integrity of, and simultaneously enhance, the electoral process at the Federal, State and local levels.

Benefits

The FVAP Web site features information from the 55 states and territories regarding the electronic ballot request and delivery alternatives available to citizens covered by UOCAVA. The 2006 IVAS Web site included a secure solution for eligible voter's from participating states to request a blank ballot through an automated version of the FPCA and receive a ballot electronically. The automated FPCA available through the IVAS portion of the FVAP Web site provides those military, family members and Department of Defense (DoD) employees and contractors overseas with this service designed to expedite the absentee voting process and facilitate communication between local election offices and voters. DBSAE is working with FVAP to deliver a next-generation solution in support of the 2008 election.

Fast Facts:

FVAP

FVAP is a program supported by the Business Transformation Agency's Defense Business Systems Acquisition Executive (DBSAE) directorate. The DBSAE directorate is responsible for driving the successful implementation of DoD systems and initiatives in support of the Department's Business Transformation goals. For the 2006 election, DBSAE implemented a secure solution for the Interim Voting Assistance Site (IVAS) to deliver absentee ballots to DoD-affiliated personnel via the Internet.

Web site Address:

<http://www.fvap.gov/>

Program Management Office:

Defense Business Systems
Acquisition Executive (DBSAE)

Stakeholders Served:

- Thousands of military Voting Assistance Officers (VAOs) around the globe
- More than 250 Embassy and Consulate VAOs
- Hundreds of State officials
- Nearly 13,000 local government officials
- Hundreds of representatives of worldwide organizations and corporations
- Personnel at 6,000 Armed Forces Recruiting Offices
- Citizens eligible to apply for voter registration or change voter registration data at Armed Forces Recruitment Offices
- Approximately 205 million U.S. citizens of voting age